would also lead to an improvement in the order book position of BHEL.

Pending thermal power stations

317. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a), whether it is a fact that five new thermal power projects of Madhya Pradesh in Sidhi, Sarguja, Raigarh, Bilaspur and Chhindwara districts are pending with the Union Government for clearance; and

(b) if so, by when these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) Proposals have been received for setting up thermal power projects in -Sidhi,'Sarguja^ Raigarh, Bilaspur and Chhindwara districts in Madhya Pradesh. The proposal to instal a thermal power project in Sarguja district (Bishrampur) has not been found feasible. The other proposals ar alseo not included in the Seventh Plan. Such proposals can be considered for investment decision only after their-techno-economic viability has been established and all necessary inputs and clearances, including the funds required, have been tied up.

Talcher Super Thermal Power Project

318. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a)' whether the super thermal power project proposed to be set up at Talcher in Orissa has since been cleared by Government;

. (b) if so, what would be the cost and other details of the project;

(c) by when this project is likely

(d) what are the details regarding other projects which are pending for clearance by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OP POWER IN THE MINTSTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) The Central Electricity Authority has techno-economically clearer the proposal to set up the Talcher super khermal power pro. ject (2x500 MW) in Orissa at an estimated cost of about Es. 12&1 crores including the associated transmission system. An investment decision in regard to the project can be taken only after all necessary inputs have been tied up.

(c) A 500 MW Unit is normally commissioned within five years from the placement of orders for the main plant and equipment.

(d) Pending an investment deci sion, the Planning' Commission has accorded "in principle" clearance to the lb Valley Thermal Power Pro ject of 840 MW. The power portion of the Manitahadra multi-purpose project can be techno-economically appraised by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA} after the project has- been cleared by the Technical Advisory Committee of the Planning Commission. Proposals in regard to the Mandira Dam hydel project and Bargarh hydel scheme were received in the CEA in 1986 and are .under examination in the CEA and the Central Water Commission.

Uniform electricity rates

319. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether different rates of electricity are being charged at present in various States;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to introduce uniform rates of electricity in

(c) whether it is possible to bring uniformity in the rates of electricity in different States by creating a National Power Grid; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government towards creating a National Power Grid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration of Government.

(c) and (d) The National Power Grid is an evolutionary process requiring appropriate interconnections and strengthening of the various State Systems and the Central Sector transmission lines. As a step towards the formation of the National Power Grid, Regional Electricity Boards have been set up to accelerate the process of integrated operations of the regional systems. Such a Gird would facilitate transfer of power from one region to another and from one State to another.

Under the Electricity (Supply) Act, *1948,* the electricity tariffs for various categories of consumers are fixed by the State Electricity Boards/ Electricity |Departmente depending upon their costs of generation, costs of imported energy, operation' and maintenance expenses etc.

Hydro-electric projects in U.P. and M.P.

320. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH;

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the hydro-electric projects in existance at present in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) what is the power generation capacity of each project; and

(c) what are the details of new hydro-electric projects which are likely to be installed during the Seventh Five Year Plan in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh with estimated cost of each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) Required information is given at Statement-I and II.

Statement-I

Details of Hydro-electric Projects in UP. and M. P. as on 31-3-87

SI.No.	Name of the H.E. Station	Total installed capacit project (MW)
1	2	*3*
	Majorjmedium HE Projects	
	Uttar Pradesh:	
1 1	Rihand	
	Obra.	
	Dhakrani (Yamuna Stg. I)	33.